

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 04357 240946Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02

SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 /055 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7545

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MANILA 4357

E O 11652: NA

TAGS: SHUM, PINT, RP

SUBJ: AQUINO CASE UPDATE

1. DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE (DND) SPOKESMAN TOLD PRESS MARCH 23 PROSECUTION WILL REST GOVERNMENT'S CASE AGAINST AQUINO AFTER PRESENTING ITS 22ND WITNESS TOMORROW (MARCH 25). RECENT WITNESSES HAVE TESTIFIED AQUINO WAS PRESENT DURING A RAID IN 1965 STAGED BY COMMUNIST GUERRILLAS IN TARLAC. AT THAT TIME HE WAS GOVERNOR OF TARLAC.

2. AFTER GOVERNMENT RESTS CASE, AQUINO OR HIS LAWYERS MAY PRESENT STATEMENT. AQUINO'S SISTER RECENTLY TOLD EMBOFF HER BROTHER'S STATEMENT NOW RAN TO 150 PAGES. SHE AND HIS LAWYERS DOUBT, HOWEVER, AQUINO WILL BE ALLOWED TO READ STATEMENT IN PERSON.

3. EMBASSY HAD HEARD FROM ICJ'S WILLIAM BUTLER THAT AQUINO THOUGHT GOVERNMENT WAS PLANNING TO END CASE BY END OF MARCH (SEE MANILA 2874, PARA 3), ALTHOUGH SOLICITOR GENERAL MENDOZA TOLD EMBOFF MARCH 5 HE DOUBTED CASE WOULD BE FINISED BEFORE END OF YEAR.

4. WE WILL CONTINUE KEEP DEPARTMENT ADVISED.

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PAGE 02 MANILA 04357 240946Z

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3010436
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TAGS: SHUM, PINT, PINS, RP
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